Mar. 4.2003 FRISHAUF & PARTNERS

Attorney Docket No. 01582/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Yasuteru TAKAHAMA et al

Serial No. : 09/955,857

: September 19, 2001 Filed

: INVERTED MICROSCOPE For

: 2872 Art Unit

: M. A. Robinson Examiner

FAX RECEIVED RESPONSE -

Commissioner for Patents

MAR 4 2003

Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

SIR:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 5, 2003, the term for response to which expires on March 5, 2003.

ELECTION:

Applicants hereby elect Species a, Fig. 1 (first embodiment) for further prosecution on the merits, without traverse.

The claims readable on the elected species of Fig. 1 are claims 1-3 and 10-17.

It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed on the basis of the election set forth hereinabove.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz Esq. Reg. No. 22/974

Dated: March 4, 2003

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S!_Orange Franklin

Dated: March 4, 2003

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith. please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378.